



2006 Agency & Municipal

Environmental Purchasing and Sustainability Awards

Presented by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Operational Services Division,

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and

Department of Environmental Protection

What is the Massachusetts Environmental Purchasing and Sustainability Award?

The Environmental Purchasing and Sustainability Awards is a public service awards program sponsored by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Operational Services Division in cooperation with the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, and Department of Environmental Protection, for the purpose of recognizing outstanding efforts in purchasing EPPs and other sustainable practices among Commonwealth public sector entities.

What is Different about This Year's Award?

Over the past few years, the scope of environmental activities implemented by state agencies, cities and towns has extended beyond purchases of recycled content and other EPPs to include such new initiatives as green house gas emission reduction, waste minimization and other sustainable practices. To better address these new developments, the annual awards program will broaden its scope to include a variety of other sustainable practices. While it is desirable that every application continue to document recycled and EPP purchasing, we encourage the applicants to address other sustainable practices as well.

Who Should Apply?

Eligible entities include state agencies and authorities, state facilities, colleges and universities, municipalities and their departments, schools/school districts and public purchasing cooperatives.

What are Sustainable Practices?

Entities considering applying should have made a significant effort in implementing initiatives in one or more of the following areas:

- Purchasing of recycled and environmentally preferable products (EPPs),
- Climate protection and energy efficiency,
- Waste reduction and recycling,
- Reduction or elimination of use of mercury and persistent bioaccumulative toxins (PBTs),
- Sustainable design and construction,
- Water conservation,
- Natural resource protection.

Why Should You Apply?

Receiving a Commonwealth Environmental Purchasing and Sustainability Award gets you public recognition for your achievements in the recycled and EPP purchasing and sustainability arenas. Such recognition can help to promote future environmental efforts and help foster a positive image of your organization.

When Will the Award Be Presented?

The Environmental Purchasing and Sustainability Awards will be presented at the 12th Annual EPP Vendor Fair and Conference, to be held this year on October 25, 2006, at the DCU Center (formerly the Centrum), in Worcester, MA. Media as well as state legislators and others are invited to the event.

Application/Nomination Instructions

To apply, complete and return the attached form, with particular attention to the description of program summary. Individuals may enter their own agency/municipality/school for an award, and/or nominate another entity.

All entries must be submitted no later than Monday, September 6, 2006 to the address indicated.

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AWARD CRITERIA

Some or all of the following criteria will be considered in evaluating nominations.

- ♦ **Sustainable Practices.** Demonstrated efforts in one or more of the following areas:
 - Climate protection and energy efficiency,
 - Waste reduction and recycling,
 - Reduction or elimination of use of mercury and persistent bioaccumulative toxins (PBTs),
 - Sustainable design and construction,
 - Purchasing of recycled and environmentally preferable products (EPPs) and
 - Water conservation.
- ♦ **Comprehensiveness, diversity and scale of effort.** Number of sustainable practice areas addressed, number of departments participating in the effort.
- ♦ **Environmental benefits and cost savings achieved by the project or program** (e. g. greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions, gallons of water conserved, cubic yards of landfill space saved, kilowatt-hours of energy saved, dollar savings that resulted from the project, etc.)
- ♦ **Policy development.** Adoption of a formal Sustainability Plan, Buy Recycled and/or EPP Purchasing Policy, Climate Protection Plan, Water Conservation Ordinance and/or other documents institutionalizing the effort. (Please attach a copy of the policy).
- ♦ **Program growth.** Growth in the implementation of sustainable practices over the past year (e. g. growth in recycled and EPP purchases (number of products, dollars spent, overall percentage, etc.), increase in recycling rate, progress toward GHG emissions reduction goal, etc.)
- ♦ **Innovation/creativity of effort.** New sustainability initiatives implemented (e. g. documented experience in pilot testing new recycled and EPPs, use of new products or technologies for reducing environmental impacts).
- ♦ **Tracking.** A comprehensive method of tracking the implementation of sustainable practices and their benefits (e. g. energy and water savings, recycled / EPP purchases).
- ♦ **Linking environmental purchasing and sustainability.** Incorporating sustainability considerations into purchasing decisions through considering use and disposal costs at the time of purchase, purchases that address more than one sustainable practice areas above.

NOMINATION FORM

Agency/Municipality/Other being nominated: _____

Contact person: _____

Address: _____

Phone/Fax: _____

Email: _____

Name of Person and Organization Responsible for the nomination (if different from above): _____

PROGRAM SUMMARY: Please attach a separate sheets describing the applicant's or nominee's (if different from applicant) efforts in the areas of environmental purchasing and sustainability satisfying the award criteria above. Please include such specific information as the specific tracking data, savings information, specific project locations, name(s) of person(s) to contact for more information, and any other pertinent details.

All entries must be submitted no later than September 6, 2006, to Marcia Deegler, OSD, One Ashburton Place, Room 1017, Boston, MA; email marcia.deegler@osd.state.ma.us or fax 617-727-4527. For questions or more information, please call (617) 720-3356.